ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

1877

Fifty-Eighth Annual Session

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Session of the Alabama Baptist Association convened with the church at Greenville on Friday, October 12th, 1877.

In the absence of Eld. T. J. Miles, the appointee, Eld. B. A. Jackson preached the introductory sermon, from Psalms lxxxv. 8—"I will hear what God the Lord will speak."

On reassembling at 2½ o'clock, the hymn, "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound," was sung, when the delegates were called to order by Eld. D. Lee, the Moderator. The former Clerk not being present, Eld. E. F. Baber was appointed Clerk *pro tem.*

Elders M. Bishop and J. W. Orme and Bro. J. M. Thigpen read the letters from the churches; after which the names of delegates were enrolled, as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Centre Ridge—B. F. Riley, S. W. Lide.

Town Creek—B. W. Whilden, D. B. Edwards, W. W. Hardy*. From *Ladies' Missionary Society* of said Church—D. B. Edwards.

Bethany—E. F. Baber, R. P. Rives, H. W. Caffey*.

Sister Springs—J. M. Smoke, T. J. Campbell*, Henry Day.

Pleasant Hill—*T. E. Williams*, U. J. Crumpton, J. H. Hickson*.

Cedar Creek—Not represented.

Shiloh—B. D. Crum*, Jere Johnson*, C. H. Morgan*.

SECOND DISTRICT.

New Bethel—W. W. Pruitt*, J. K. Day.

Steep Creek—G. W. McQueen, R. Meadows, S. A. Satterwhite.

Hayneville—G. W. McQueen.

Bethel—M. Bishop, A. F. Goldsmith, W. P. Rice.

Mt. Gilead—Jas. Bryant*, H. W. Edwards*, Robt. Hardy*.

Ash Creek—A. Edwards, B. F. Caffey*, F. Gordon*.

Hopewell—D. Lee, C. A. Gunn, *E. C. Plum.*

Good Hope—G. W. Buckhaults, J. C. Abbott.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Salem—Geo. W. Bayzer, D. Loper, A. B. Brassell.

Autaugaville—Not represented.

First Montgomery—J. B. Hawthorne, J. B. Gay*, John Bullock*, J. R. Adams*, S. Rambo*, J. W. Hale*.

Adams St., Montgomery—Not represented.

Liberty—J. A. Mitchell*, T. U. Barnett*, James Lee*.

Union—J. F. Sims, T. E. Morgan*, J. A. Stringer.

Mt. Lebanon—J. W. Orme. F. M. Sullivan*, Geo. Long*.

Pine Level—T. J. Miles*, E. J. Harris, W. L. Gilmer.

Unity—G. W. Ward, J. N. Booth*, J. W. Matthews.*

Elam—Geo. S. Ward, W. G. Worrell, M. McLemore*.

Ramah—B. A. Jackson, J. D. Garrard, J. W. Wayne*.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Greenville—T. C. Watts, J. A. Harris, J. M. Thigpen, John Gamble.

Philadelphia—G. T. Edwards, H. F. Hinds*.

Antioch—A. P. Gafford, S. E. Thompson*, S. D. Barganier.

Damascus—W. C. Avant, W. P. Rouse, Jesse Edge.

Bethesda—C. Stevens, D. Carney*, James Bell*.

Hickory Grove—J. C. Fonville*, W. P. McQueen, A. Dean*.

New Ebenezer—C. C. Mothershed*, Jeff. Cook, James Polk.

On motion, the following officers were elected by acclamation : D. Lee, Moderator ; E. F. Baber, Clerk ; T. C. Watts, Treasurer.

On call for corresponding messengers, the following were severally recognized :

From Pine Barren Association—B. F. Riley, J. R. Hawthorne.

Cahaba—M. T. Sumner, D. D.

Bethlehem—J. E. Bell, J. M. Fortune.

(Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPITALS; Licentiates in *italics;* absentees, *.)

Central—H. C. Taul.

State Educational Board—J. B. Hawthorne, D. D.

State Mission Board—E. F. Baber.

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—M. T. Sumner, D. D.

And correspondence was returned, as follows:

To Bethlehem Association—B. H. Crumpton, J. B. Hawthorne, D. Lee, A. F. Goldsmith, W. C. Avant, I. L. Taylor, Jno. A. Stringer.

Zion—B. H. Crumpton, M. Bishop, A. F. Goldsmith, R. M. Burt, I. L. Taylor.

Pine Barren—B. H. Crumpton, J. B. Hawthorne, G. W. McQueen, S. W. Lide.

Central—J. B. Hawthorne, J. W. Orme, J. Falkner, W. G. Worrell, Geo. F. Ward.

Cahaba—E. F. Baber, B. H. Crumpton.

Salem—B. A. Jackson, A. F. Goldsmith, M. Bishop, E. J. Harris, W. L. Gilmer, J. D. Garrard, J. A. Frazer.

Unity—E. F. Baber.

[Note.—The appointment of delegates to the Baptist State Convention having been inadvertently omitted during the session of the Association, the names of the following delegates from the Association are inserted under instructions from the Moderator: J. B. Hawthorne, J. W. Orme, B. A. Jackson, M. Bishop, B. H. Crumpton, J. W. Hale, D. B. Edwards, E. J. Harris, H. W. Caffey, T. C. Watts; with authority to fill any vacancies.]

Eld. H. C. Taul, of the Central Association, was announced to preach to-night.

The Moderator announced the following standing committees, to report during this session:

On Religious Exercises—S. W. Lide, S. A. Satterwhite, C. Stevens, and the Deacons of Greenville church.

On Documents—B. A. Jackson, W. C. Avant, R. P. Rives, Thos. E. Williams, J. A. Stringer.

On State of Religion in the Churches—G. W. McQueen, M. Bishop, W. L. Gilmer, W. G. Worrell, J. D. Garrard.

On Finance—D. B. Edwards, W. P. Rice, E. J. Harris.

Auditing Committee—A. F. Goldsmith, Wm. P. McQueen, S. D. Barganier.

And the following Committee on Missions, to report next year:

J. B. Hawthorne, A. F. Goldsmith, I. L. Taylor, A. Edwards, C. A. Gunn.

Eld. J. B. Hawthorne offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Association suspend the usual order of busi-

ness to-morrow morning, at 10½ o'clock, to consider the work of the State Mission Board, and that Eld. E. F. Baber be requested to present the subject to this body.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a half hour be spent in devotional exercises to-morrow morning, before proceeding to business.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, October 13.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises conducted by Eld. B. W. Whilden.

Bro. D. B. Edwards, from Committee on History of the Churches in the First District, reported progress, and offered a resolution that some other method of publication than that originally designed should be adopted.

Eld. McQueen moved indefinite postponement of the effort to prepare the history of the churches.

Pending discussion of the motion, the hour of 10½ o'clock arrived, and the special order (the work of the State Board) was taken up. Eld. E. F. Baber presented the subject before the Association, and remarks in favor thereof were made by J. B. Hawthorne, B. H. Crumpton and J. E. Bell.

Brother John Gamble moved that further consideration be postponed till 10 o'clock, Monday morning. A lengthy discussion ensued, pending which the body adjourned till 2½ o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2½ O'Clock.

On reassembling, the motion to postpone till Monday was withdrawn, and the following resolution, offered by Eld. J. B. Hawthorne, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Association cordially endorse the work of the State Board of Missions, and recommend the churches represented in this body to support it by their prayers and contributions.

Subject of Church History resumed. Motion to postpone lost, and the following resolution, offered by Eld. B. F. Riley, adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to consider the disposition of the historical data which has already been secured, and which may hereafter be secured.

And the following were appointed said committee: B. F. Riley, D. B. Edwards, G. W. McQueen, J. W. Orme, B. H. Crumpton.

The Committee on Missions, appointed last year, reported through its Chairman, B. H. Crumpton, and the report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

It is the opinion of your committee that it is useless to consume time or occupy space any longer in reports upon the importance and scripturalness of the mission cause, and our obligation to sustain it. Amid the numberless and weighty arguments which have been advanced in these modern days, men have been forced to "accept the situation," or, from the unconscious prejudice of education, or some other cause, to repudiate it entirely. The most we can hope to accomplish, then, is to confirm the friends of the enterprise by inciting them to a vigorous prosecution of the work, and convince all sceptics on the subject by absolute success.

The great question is: *Has the mission project been a success?*

We will but briefly advert to a few indisputable facts, obvious to the most casual observer of the subject. A few years ago, when "Modern Missions," which was only a revival of the ancient apostolic spirit, and which, from circumstances, had been slumbering for centuries past, was sprung, it is a conceded fact that superstition, ignorance, oppression and idolatry were rife in almost the entire earth. Burmah, India, Japan, China, Australia, the Sandwich Islands, and other places were "wholly given to idolatry." Now, Christians are numbered by the thousands in some of these countries; and even in the Sandwich Islands, where a few years ago they were cannibals, many churches are self-sustaining and aiding in giving "the Word" to "the regions beyond." These are facts which can be sustained, and it is needless to multiply instances.

How this work can be sustained and rendered more efficient, is the next practical question to consider.

Evidently not by meagre, unmissed and occasional contributions from the few fortunate of earth, as in the past. But it must be by the contributions of the many, though small perchance, even at a *sacrifice*, until the whole body of disciples shall feel identified with the enterprise. Then, but never till then, will the church feel the interest in, and offer her earnest prayers for, the poor, self-sacrificing heralds of the cross and the cause they represent.

We would impress it upon the minds of all, that while Paul plants and Apollos waters, God gives the increase. When offerings and prayers are both carried to God, then will "the wilderness and solitary places be glad for them, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose." For such a result let us rally our forces and husband our resources for an onward and successful march in the conquest of the world for Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

B. H. CRUMPTON,
Chairman.

Bro. John Gamble moved to amend the foregoing report with the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee heretofore appointed and existing in and for this Association, be continued as a committee, and that they collect all the funds they may be able, and that they expend all moneys collected or received by them in aiding churches unable to procure the "preached Word," by supplementing their ability to sustain a pastor, and to occupy fields already heretofore unoccupied, if they have the means.

Resolved, That the churches composing this Association be earnestly requested to take up a collection within the month of November next ensuing, and as often thereafter as occasion may require, for the purpose of sustaining the mission work within this Association; and that the pastors of the several churches in the same be earnestly requested to bring this matter before their several churches, and urge them to give liberally for this purpose.

Resolved, That said committee have the discretion to apply all funds received for the purposes herein indicated to those localities most needful, in sustaining the ministers of their choice whose services can be obtained.

The following additional correspondents were announced and recognized : From Zion Association—W. H. Cheatham, S. F. Cranford.

From Salem Association—M. J. Gamble.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported as follows for tomorrow (Sunday) :

Baptist Church—11 a. m., J. B. Hawthorne; 7½ p. m., B. F. Riley.

Methodist Church—11 a. m., M. T. Sumner; 7½ p. m., E. F. Baber.

Presbyterian Church—11 a. m., H. C. Taul.

Colored Baptist Church—3 p. m., B. W. Whilden; 7½ p. m., G. W. McQueen.

Sabbath School exercises at Baptist Church from 9½ a. m. to 10½ a. m.; addresses by M. T. Sumner, B. W. Whilden, R. M. Burt.

The Committee on State of Religion in the Churches made their report, which was adopted :

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

Your Committee on the State of Religion in the Churches beg leave to report as follows :

That there is but one church that reports coldness.

One church reports no pastor. There are, however, three other churches that have no pastor, in the opinion of your committee.

Thirteen churches report no special interest; eight report a state of prosperity.

Five report revivals, and from three churches heretofore almost extinct, comes the cheering news of spiritual life and great ingathering.

Fifteen report Sabbath Schools; eight report prayer meetings.

Fifteen churches report a decrease of 91; ten churches report an increase of 212; total increase, 121.

From the above statistics, we believe our Association is on rising ground. We think it worthy of remark, that in that portion of our Association where lethargy and decline have been reported for years, there have been great interest and increase, and in that portion where our churches have been most prosperous for years, they are about the same as heretofore in strength and activity.

Respectfully submitted. G. W. McQUEEN, Chairman.

The Treasurer's report was received and read, and referred to the Auditing Committee:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

THADDEUS C. WATTS, Treasurer, *In account with the Alabama Baptist Association.* 1876–77.

DR.

To cash received for Minutes			$ 50.05
" " " Indian Missions			7.00
" " " Domertic Missions			61.78
" " " Foreign Missions			42.62
" " " State Educational Board			36.25
" " " State Mission Board			264.40
" " " Endowment Howard College			89.60
" " " S. B. Theological Seminary			96.00
" " " General Associational purposes, at the Association		$28.00	
" " Balance from Minute fund		10.05	
" " Carlowville Church		5.00	
" " Liberty Church		6.10	
" " Salem Church		3.65	
" " Pine Level Church		2.50	
" " Unity Church		7.00	
" " Steep Creek Church		6.55	
" " Ft. Deposit Church		16.00	
" " Mt. Gilead Church		6.50	
" " Greenville Church		2.80	
			$ 94.15
			$741.85

CR.

By cash paid Clerk for Minutes	$ 50.05
" " W. H. McIntosh, Indian Mission	7.00
" " W. H. McIntosh, Domestic Mission	61.78
" " H. A. Tupper, Foreign Mission	42.62
" " B. B. Davis, Educational Board	36.25
" " T. M. Bailey, State Mission Board	264.40
" " J. J. D. Renfroe, Endowment Howard College	89.60
" " Dr. M. T. Sumner, S. B. Theological Seminary	96.00
Balance on hand	94.16—$741.85

Respectfully submitted. THADDEUS C. WATTS, Treas'r.

Examined and found correct. AUDITING COMMITTEE.

On motion, the rules were suspended to allow Dr. Hawthorne to receive contributions for support of E. C. Plum at Howard College. The contributions were: Cash, $22.75; pledges, $42.50, as follows: D. B. Edwards, $5; 1st Church, Montgomery, $25; T. C. Watts, $2; A. Edwards, $5; John Gamble, $5; I. L. Taylor, 50 cents.

On motion, the hour of 7½ this evening was set apart to allow Dr. Sumner to present the claims of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and take a collection for the same.

Adjourned to 7½ o'clock. Prayer by Eld. Riley.

NIGHT SESSION.

7½ O'Clock p. m.

Devotional exercises by Eld. Whilden. Dr. Sumner spoke in behalf of the Seminary, followed by B. H. Crumpton; after which a collection was taken up, resulting in $13.75 cash, $150 in bonds of the Seminary, and a pledge of 50 cents.

A Committee on Obituaries was appointed, consisting of B. H. Crumpton, B. A. Jackson and C. A. Gunn.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morning.

On Sabbath the collection at the Baptist Church amounted to $60.10, and at the Methodist to $10.50.

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 15, 9 O'Clock.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. Avant.

Report of Finance Committee received and referred to Auditing Committee.

The Committee on Documents made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Documents beg leave to submit the following: Hickory Grove Church reports the death of Deacon Armstrong; Bethel, the ordination of Bro. A. F. Goldsmith to the full work of the ministry; Sister Springs, the ordination of Bro. J. M. Smoke to the work of the gospel ministry; Greenville and Town Creek Churches report Ladies' Aid Societies in good order, doing efficient work. We think the example of these good sisters is commendable and praiseworthy, and deserves to be imitated by the sisters in all the churches. Pine Level asks the next meeting of this body to convene with it. Brother Ezra C. Plum has been licensed to preach since last session by Hopewell Church.

Respectfully submitted.

B. A. JACKSON,
Chairman.

Business was suspended to allow further collection for E. C. Plum, and also for education of I. L. Taylor, which resulted as follows: For Plum $1.50 cash, $32.50 in pledges; for Taylor, $26.05 cash.

The brethren composing the Committee on Religious Exercises of this session were requested to select ministers to preach the stated sermons at our next meeting. They reported as follows: Introductory sermon, M. Bishop; alternate, G. W. McQueen. Missionary sermon, B. H. Crumpton; alternate, J. W. Orme.

The delegates from the churches of the Third District were appointed a committee to select the time and place of the next meeting of the Association. They recommended that the next session be held with Pine Level church, Montgomery county, commencing on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1878. Adopted.

Eld. Riley, from Committee on History of the Churches, reported as follows, which was adopted:

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

The committee to whom was referred the disposition of the historical data already secured, and to indicate the direction to be given to that which shall hereafter be gathered, report: That they find in the items submitted by the brethren to whom was entrusted the work of accumulating historical material, much that is interesting, valuable and stimulating. Much that would otherwise be lost has been thus rescued from wreck and ruin, and must ever be precious to members of this Association, as well as to members of other Associations. We, therefore, recommend that the work so encouragingly begun be vigorously prosecuted until every church within the Association shall have been thoroughly canvassed. And to secure this end, we recommend that a competent brother be appointed to the work in each of the four districts; that the historical material already reported to the Association be transferred to these brethren with respect to the several districts, who shall preserve it and report it again at the next meeting of the body, together with that which they will secure during the ensuing year.

B. F. RILEY, Chairman.

And the brethren making the report were appointed the committee recommended in the same, viz: B. F. Riley, D. B. Edwards, G. W. McQueen, J. W. Orme, B. H. Crumpton.

On motion of Eld. McQueen, ordered that the moneys sent up by the churches to the present session, for "Associational purposes," be turned over to the Executive Board of the Association.

Eld. Whilden offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it be suggested to our churches, that in sending

funds for the use of the State Board of Missions, they designate the same by writing "*State Board;*" and when for the use of the Executive Board of the Association, that they designate the same by writing "*Executive Board.*"

Eld. Bishop offered the following resolution for submission to the churches, and it was adopted, after rejecting an amendment by J. D. Garrard to insert "fifty members" instead of "twenty-five," viz:

Resolved, That the second article of the Constitution be so amended as to read as follows:

"Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, and for every additional twenty-five members above the first hundred she shall be entitled to an additional delegate."

Therefore, the foregoing resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution, is hereby submitted to the churches for their approval or disapproval, with the request that they take action thereon, and report the same in their letters to the next session of this Association.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That the members of this Association tender to the Greenville Baptist church and citizens of this community their sincere thanks for their generous and bountiful hospitality during our stay with them, and to the Methodist and Presbyterian churches for the use of their pulpits on Sabbath.

Eld. Bishop offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Moderator to report at our next session a Bible plan of *giving* for the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ—if there is any plan.

And M. Bishop, B. W. Whilden and B. H. Crumpton were appointed the committee provided for by the resolution.

The Executive Board of the Association made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board of the Alabama Baptist Association respectfully report:

The funds contributed by the Association, and the amounts collected from the various churches during the last Associational year, were not sufficient to procure the services of an efficient minister to supply the destitution within our bounds.

At our last Association your Board received instructions to help Salem and Bethesda churches, the amount being left to their discretion. We have agreed to pay Bro. J. W. Orme, who has been laboring for these churches, seventy-five dollars ($75.00). Your Board are glad to report, from the letters sent up from these churches, and

from Bro. Orme's own lips, the noble and self-sacrificing labors our good brother, through the power and grace of our Heavenly Master, has performed with those two feeble churches. These churches have not only increased in the love and faith of our Heavenly Master, but large additions have been made to them, and they are now growing and lively churches.

Your Board are glad to report that other pastors have performed good work in other portions of the Associational limits.

Your Board are glad to report the extent of the destitution largely diminished, but still there is great destitution in various parts of our Association. The labors of the missionary are most needed in the northeastern and northwestern portions of our bounds, and we urge the great importance of either placing one in the field or making some arrangement with pastors whose time is not wholly occupied to visit and develop these destitute churches; and we would urge the churches to make liberal donations, that these destitute churches may be supplied with the Gospel.

R. M. BURT,
T. C. WATTS.

Brethren B. B. Davis and T. C. M. Golland having removed from the bounds of the Association, the following brethren were appointed to fill their places respectively on the Executive Board: J. B. Gay, of Montgomery, S. A. Satterwhite, of Letohatchee.

Eld. Orme presented the claims of Elam church for assistance, and a collection was taken up amounting to $10.40 cash, and $7.75 in pledges, as follows: Mrs. L. A. Bullock 50c.; Miss Lou Ward $2; Mrs. M. J. Bailey 25c.; Mrs. M. Dohrmier $1; Miss Georgia Hartley $1; Mrs. E. McMullan $1; Miss Ellen Wood $1; Miss Mattie Wood $1.

Eld. Bishop presented the claims of Autaugaville church; 50c. pledged.

Eld. Crumpton, from Committee on Obituaries, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

Your committee report that three of the faithful servants of the Master have fallen since the last Associational meeting--Elder Kedar Hawthorne and Deacons H. L. Hinson and Franklin Armstrong.

Elder K. Hawthorne was one of the pioneer fathers of our country, who encountered the numerous difficulties, made the heroic sacrifices, and addressed himself, without remuneration, to the planting of the Gospel in this then barren wilderness. He lived long and labored hard, gathering many precious souls into the folds of the Lamb. He baptized over four thousand persons, organized over twenty churches, and nearly all of his labor was expended within the State of Alabama. Last August, in the manifest possession of "the peace of God that passeth understanding," he passed away.

Two of the most efficient and devoted Deacons of the churches of our Association, H. L. Hinson and Franklin Armstrong, have also been called from this life of labor to rest and repose.

Resolved, That in the death of Elder K. Hawthorne, "a good man," in the Bible sense of the term, has fallen, and the absence of his person from us can be supplied only by the ever-living influence of his holy character, which will still give utterance to its impulses through other lips.

Resolved, That we feel deeply the loss of our esteemed brethren H. L. Hinson, of Hopewell church, and Franklin Armstrong, of Hickory Grove church, and we can only pray that the hand which removed them may raise up others of equal character to supply their places.

Resolved, That we bow in humble submission to this severe dispensation of Providence, and tender our sympathy to all the families thus sorely bereaved.

Respectfully submitted. B. H. CRUMPTON,
Chairman.

On motion, ordered that the collections of Sabbath be equally divided between the Home and Foreign Boards.

On motion, the Clerk was instructed to make a *pro rata* distribution of Minutes to the churches; to send at least one copy each to those churches which contributed nothing to the Minute fund, and to retain $20 for preparing and superintending the printing of the Minutes and distributing the same.

Bro. D. B. Edwards, by leave, spoke of the work of the State Mission Board, and moved to suspend business to allow a collection to be taken for the same. Carried, and the collection amounted to $2.25 in cash, and $110 in pledges, as follows: J. F. Sims $5; J. M. Smoke $10; Town Creek church $46; Centre Ridge $5; Good Hope $5; Steep Creek $5; Bethany $5; Ash Creek $10; Bethel $5; Salem $5; Damascus $5; Macedonia $3; W. P. McQueen $1.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint a committee on Sabbath Schools, to report next session.

The following compose the committee: B. H. Crumpton, D. B. Edwards, J. W. Orme.

At 12½ o'clock, there being no further business before the body, the parting hand was extended, the Moderator offered prayer, and the Association adjourned to meet with the church at Pine Level, Montgomery county, on Friday before the 2d Sabbath in October, 1878. D. LEE, Moderator.

E. F. Baber, Clerk.

Note.—The Clerk was authorized to acknowledge the reception from Bro. B. B. Davis of a bound copy of the Minutes of the Association for many years past.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	County.	Baptized.	Received by Letter	Rec'd by Voucher.	Restored.	Dismi'd by Letter.	Absent without Letter	Excluded.	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.	Ladies' Ben. Soc'l.	Prayer Meetings.	Young Men's Prayer Meetings.	Sab. ath Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Teachers' Meet'gs.	Sabbath Meetings.	Licensed to Preach
FIRST DISTRICT.																							
Centre Ridge	B. F. Riley	J. W. Dennis,	Richmond	D		1		1	4	2		15	4		1	w		w	5	21		2&4	
Town Creek	B. W. Whilden	D. B. Edwards,	Benton	L					7			52	7		1	w		w	5	25		1	
Bethany	E. F. Baber,	J. A. Caffey,	"	L														w					
Sister Springs	J. M. Smoke	Jared Carter,	"	L	4	3		3				20	2					w		10		3	
Pleasant Hill	B. W. Whilden	J. W. Smyly,	Pleasant Hill	D					1		1	58		2		w		w		33		4	
Shiloh	E. F. Baber	B. D. Crum,	Selma,	D	1				2	10	4	19		5		w		w	6	55		4	
*Cedar Creek	J. F. Bruner	Ithiel Ingram,	Farmersville,	L								45											
SECOND DISTRICT.																							
Hopewell	D. Lee,	G. W. Coker,	Mt. Willing,	L	10	9			4	4	1	112						w				1&2	1
Ash Creek	E. F Baber	W. T. Relf,	Benton,	L					1			34										1	
Hayneville		A. Varner	Hayneville,	L					1		1	32						w				3	
Steep Creek	G. W. McQueen	U. G. W. Powell,	Hayneville,	L	2				3			62		4				w	3	15		1&4	
Bethel	J. M. Fortune	R. M. Burt,	Fort Deposit	L	19	1		3	9	35	3	188	9		1	w	w	w	5	45		1&3	
Good Hope	I. L. Taylor	J. C. Abbott,	Greenville,	B	13	7			5		1	39	14					w	5	30		2	
Mt. Gilead	E. F. Baber,	Jas. Bryant,	Benton,	L		2			1	2		26	1					w	3	18		2	
New Bethel	J. F. Bruner,	W. W. Pruitt,	Bragg's Store,	L					5		1	33		7								1	
*Benton		A. L. Haralson,	Benton,	L								10											
THIRD DISTRICT.																							
Salem	J.W.OrmeMiss'y	G. W. Bayzer,	Montgomery,	M	25	2	1	1	1			35	28					w	3	24			
*Autaugaville		O. W. Sherrer,	Autaugaville,	A								15											
First Montgomery	J. B. Hawthorne,	W. P. VanDerVeer,	Montgomery,	M	83	44		7	18		11	396	105			w	w	w	22	185	w	w	
*Adam St. Mont'y	Jeff Falkner,	J. M. Falkner,	Montgomery,	M								56				w		w	4	40		w	
Liberty	J. W. Orme,	T. U. Barnett,	Ramah,	M	4			1	3		1	53	1									1	
Union	W. C. Avant,	J. A. Stringer,	Honoroville,	C	3	7	2	1	8		1	78	4									4	1
Mt. Lebanon	J. W. Orme,	Wm. Niblet,	Ramah,	M	4	1		1	4		1	61		10									
Pine Level	J. S. Yarbrough,	J. A. Frazer,	Pine Level,	M		1			1		1	73		4				w	5	25		4	
Unity	H. C. Taul,	Jas H. Booth,	Prattville,	A		1			7		2	51		8				w	8	60		4	
Elam		Moses McLemore,	Montgomery,	M								15						w					
Ramah	B. A. Jackson,	A. L. Guice,	Ramah,	M	2	2			9		1	85		6				w		15		2	
FOURTH DISTRICT.																							
Greenville	B. H. Crumpton,	J. A. Harris,	Greenville,	B	2	8			10	3	4	150		5	2	w		w	13	125		w	
Philadelphia	J. S. Yarbrough,	H. F. Hinds,	Argus,	C	1				3			33		25									
Antioch	M. Bishop,	J. P. Gafford,	Greenville,	B		1		1	13		2	62		15								1	
Damascus	M. Bishop,	S. F. Andress,	Greenville,	B					1		1	78		1								3	
Hickory Grove	B. A. Jackson,	Asa Dean,	Hickory Grove,	M	1						1	36										3	
Macedonia	A. F. Goldsmith,	F. E. May,	Fort Deposit,	L		2						53		1								4	
New Ebenezer	W. C. Avant,	Jeff Cook,	Saville,	C					6		2	48	13									2&3	
Bethesda	J.W.OrmeMiss'y	Thos. Boyd,	Ramah,	M	25	10					1	11	31					w	3	40			
					199	109	3	18	128	50	38	48	2249	198	98	5			97	758			2

* Not having sent letters, the Clerk was governed by last report.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Minutes.	Domestic and Indian Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Ministerial Education.	State Mission	China Miss'n.	Redeem Pledges State Mission.	Redeem Pledges for Asso. Mission	Associational Purposes.	Theo Sem Louisville.	TOTALS.
Centre Ridge	2 50										2 50
Town Creek	2 00			5 00	12 50						19 50
Bethany	1 75				5 00			6 50			13 25
Ash Creek	1 50				15 00						16 50
Steep Creek	2 75			5 00	3 75						11 50
Ramah	1 70	5 00	5 00		10 00			2 50			24 20
Hayneville	10							5 00			5 10
Mt. Gilead	1 70				10 00						11 70
Good Hope	2 00			10 00							12 00
Bethesda	1 50										1 50
Shiloh	1 50				5 00						6 50
Salem	1 00				5 00						6 00
1st Montgomery	4 00	51 97	98 62	44 92	31 15			41 00		40 00	311 66
Elam	1 00			5 00							6 00
Pleasant Hill	1 50										1 50
Bethel	3 65										3 65
Unity	2 50	9 50	9 35		9 50			3 00			33 85
Greenville	5 00	6 85	28 50		8 25	1 15	10 00				59 55
New Ebenezer	1 50										1 50
Hickory Grove	1 50								2 50		4 00
Macedonia											
Antioch	2 00										2 00
Liberty	1 50				3 50						5 00
Cedar Creek											
Philadelphia	1 00										1 00
Mt Lebanon	2 00										2 00
Union	3 00							*3 55			6 55
Damascus	2 20								3 00		5 20
New Bethel	1 50		1 00		4 60					3 25	10 35
Hopewell	2 50			10 00							12 50
Pine Level	1 25								2 00		3 25
Sister Springs	1 50		2 65								4 15
Ladies' Miss'y So. Town Creek			9 45	14 35	6 10						29 90
R. M Burt				5 00							5 00
E. J. Harris					5 00						5 00
Mrs. L. A. Bullock					1 00						1 00
D. Lee				2 50							2 50
Miss Laura Bishop					1 00						1 00
Collection on Saturday--Cash				22 75							22 75
A. F. Goldsmith				5 00							5 00
Collection on Saturday night										13 75	13 75
	$59 20	$73 32	154 37	130 27	136 35	$1 15	$10 00	$61 55	$8 50	$56 00	689 81

Sabbath Collection, $70,60. Bonds for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, $150,00.
Collected for Elam Church $10.40.
Monday Collection for Bro. Plum—Cash $1,50; pledges $32,50.
" " " Taylor--Cash $26,05.
Collection for State Board--Cash $2,25; pledges $110,00.

D. B. EDWARDS, Chairman.

Examined and found correct.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

*Pledged in 1874.

RULES OF ORDER FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association, immediately after the delegates' names are enrolled, tellers shall be appointed by the Chair, and the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall hold their offices until new ones are chosen.

2. The Moderator shall take the Chair every day, at the hour to which the Association shall have adjourned on the preceding day; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum shall cause the Minutes of the preceding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye, and those of a contrary opinion shall say no. If the Moderator doubts, or a division be called for, the delegates shall divide; those in the affirmative of the question shall first rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative.

6. The Moderator shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise specially directed by the Association.

7. In all cases of election the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote unless the body be equally divided; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak to any question, provided he call some other member to occupy the Chair while he is speaking.

8. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates; minute the proceedings of the body, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

9. The Treasurer shall receive, account for and pay out all moneys belonging to this body, according to the instructions of the Association, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

DECORUM IN DEBATE.

10. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat, and shall respectfully address the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate, and avoid personalities.

11. If any member in speaking, or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain; and the Association shall, if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal, the decision of the Chair shall be submitted to; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed in case any member object, without leave of the Association.

12. When two or more members happen to rise at once, the Moderator shall name the member who is first to speak.

13. No member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

14. Every member who shall be in the house when a question is put, shall give his vote, unless the Association for special reason excuse him.

15. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair, or being in writing, it shall be handed to the Moderator and read aloud before debated.

16. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Chair or any member desire it.

17. After a motion is stated by the Chair, or read aloud by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the body, but may be withdrawn by leave of the Association at any time before a decision or amendment.

18. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lie on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or amend, to postpone indefinitely—which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

19. A motion to adjourn shall be always in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

20. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

21. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

22. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments, reported by committee, if any; upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

23. No motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment.

24. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a reconsideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

25. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave of the Moderator, nor leave the meeting without leave of the Association.

26. Should any member of this Association absent himself before the close of the session without permission from the body, he shall be marked in the Minutes as absent without leave.

Order of Business.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Recess.
4. Organization.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Correspondence.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Report of Executive Board.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Treasurer's Report.
11. Appoint time and place of meeting.
12. Miscellaneous Business.